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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES John D. Wiemann

State Representative - District 103

COMMITTEES Member:

Insurance - Select
Employment Security
Health Insurance
Appropriations-Health, Mental
Health, and Social Services
Professional Registration

November 4, 2016

Director John Huff DIFIPR PO Box 690 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Director Huff,



I hope that the Department will expedite the process of scheduling a hearing for the merger of Anthem and Cigna and that you will support this merger.

As you know, I serve on both the Health Insurance Committee and the Select Committee on Insurance, and I am also an insurance broker. I have seen firsthand the pressure that the ACA has placed on Missouri's healthcare system. Hospitals and physicians have been consolidating operations as a result, and it only make sense that insurance companies are now asking to do the same.

Merging is the only way to ensure that Anthem and Cigna can lower costs enough to keep competing and stay in the healthcare insurance business. This is purely and simply the free market responding to market pressures, and allowing this merger to go through unimpeded is of the utmost importance. Thanks for all you do on behalf of the citizens of Missouri.

Regards,

John D. Wiemann

State Representative, R-103